RGPPL has taken over the physical possession of assets from the Court Receiver on 06.10.2005 and has initiated actions for completion and restart of the erstwhile Dabhol Power Project.

The total power generation capacity of the project is estimated to 2150 MW. Subject to the availability of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), the power generation from one block (of total three blocks) is likely to commence by July, 2006. All three blocks are likely to be declared commercial by November, 2006.

(f) During last five and half years, techno-economic clearance was accorded by CEA to Paras TPS Extn. (1x250 MW) in Maharashtra.

MEGA Power Projects

1593. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are thinking of developing 4 ultra mega power projects of 5,000 MW;

(b) if so, whether they will be based on coal or hydro power;

(c) what is the estimated cost of the projects and how the Ministry is thinking of pooling the resources for these projects;

(d) whether the Ministry is involving the Central Electricity Authority and other agencies concerned in selecting the sites for these mega projects across the country;

(e) whether any site has been identified in Andhra Pradesh;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) It is proposed to set up Ultra Mega thermal power projects of about 4000 MW capacity each and coasta/pithead locations through competitive bidding. Various alternative sites are being examined for these projects based on use of coal.

(c) These projects are proposed to be implemented by a developer to be selected through tariff based competitive bidding. The cost details, tariff etc. would be known after the competitive bidding process and selection of the developer.

(d) Yes, Sir, CEA and other agencies are involved in the selection of sites for these Mega Projects across the country.

(e) to (g) M/s APGENCO has proposed to set up Mega coastal thermal power project at Krishnapatnam of 2x800 MW capacity in Andhra Pradesh. They are in the process of tying up various inputs/clearances for this project. However, the identification of the sites for the ultra mega projects of 4000 MW + capacity is still in a preliminary stage.

Reforms in power sector

†1594. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that speedy power development and improvement programme was launched by Government to introduce reforms in the power sector during last few years;

(b) if so, when was it initiated and the amount incurred by March, 2005 under this programme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that desired benefit has not been achieved under the above said programme; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the future plan regarding the operation of said programme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government had launched Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in the year 2002-03 in order to reduce Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses, improving quality of supply of power, increasing revenue collection and improving consumer satisfaction. APDRP has been put in place as an instrument to leverage distribution reforms in the State. The said programme has two components *viz.*

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.